



WINGSPAN

2015 Russell Egnor Navy Media Award winning newspaper



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

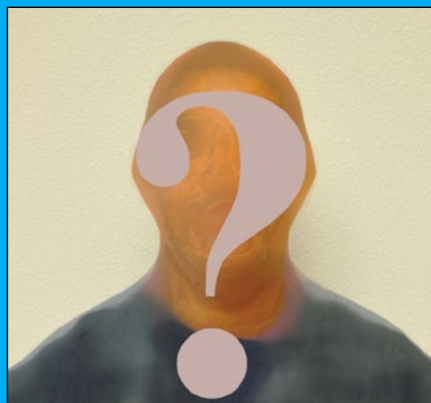
November 17, 2016



CFC final push
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Lt. Col. Michael Murphy delivers his remarks during a change of command ceremony for training squadron VT-35 held aboard NAS Corpus Christi Nov. 10. Murphy relieved Cmdr. Arthur Hodge as commanding officer of the squadron. This is the first time a commanding officer, other than Navy, will be in charge of a training squadron aboard NASCC. (Photo by Lt. j.g. Liz Feaster, CNATRA Public Affairs)

VT-35 historic change of command on USMC birthday

On the United States Marine Corps' 241st birthday, a historic change of command took place aboard NAS Corpus Christi Nov. 10.

For the first time, training squadron VT-35, had a Marine Corps officer take charge.

"I am very grateful and honored to be the first of hopefully a long line of VT-35 Marine commanders and I look forward to playing a small part in shaping the future generations of both the Navy Maritime and Marine Assault Support communities," Lt. Col. Michael Murphy said. "I do not embark upon this journey lightly. I will ensure VT-35 continues to be an amazing squadron as we continue to challenge each other to be better each day."

Outgoing commanding officer, Cmdr. Arthur Hodge, took command of the squadron in Aug. 2015.

"I will never be as proud as I am now. My watch is ending and I know that we are in good hands," Hodge said. "Stingrays, thank you for your stalwart professionalism, thank you for giving me your best."



Cmdr. Arthur Hodge delivers his remarks during a change of command ceremony for Training Squadron THREE FIVE (VT-35) held aboard NAS Corpus Christi Nov. 10.

Captain's Column



Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer



As we are approaching the Thanksgiving holiday, this is a good time to pause and reflect on some things we are very thankful for.

Since we've just passed the Navy's 241st birthday on Oct. 13, the USMC's 241st birthday on Nov. 10, and Veterans Day on Nov. 11, this is an opportunity to thank those who serve, as well as thank the great community we have that supports us here.

On Nov. 11, we paused to honor those who served, and those who still serve, in the U.S. armed forces. Some have paid the ultimate price and all have made sacrifices through their service. Veterans Day is a special day set aside that we, as Americans, reflect on the accomplishments of our fel-

low citizens who have taken up the call to defend our nation. To be a veteran is to serve something greater than oneself.

Thank you!

Veterans Day is primarily about honoring our veterans – active duty, Reserves, and national guard. However, I'd also like to take this opportunity to recognize the service/support of our family members. Their support makes everything we do possible.

Additionally, I'd like to thank the numerous independent groups that provide outstanding support for our veterans, service members and families. It is through the support of groups such as these that the military can accomplish its mission – knowing that family members are being supported back home during deployments.

Thank you!

In a similar theme, it's truly an honor to not only serve in the armed forces, but to serve in and be a part of this exceptional community here in Corpus Christi and throughout South Texas. We could not complete our mission as effectively without your support and that support is second-to-none compared

to anywhere I've ever been stationed.

Thank you!

Veterans who have worked and trained at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, as well as all veterans within this great community, have served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, numerous other theaters, and current operations throughout the world. Some of those veterans' stories you will see within the pages of each issue in our continuing series on local veterans. If you know of a veteran that you'd like to see highlighted, please contact our Public Affairs Office.

Thank you!

In closing, I'd like to give a hearty "Semper Paratus" and congratulations to the Marines of MATSG-22 for winning their 6th consecutive NASCC Sports Day competition! Well done! (Stand by – your competition will be tough at the next Sports Day in the spring!)

Again, it is an honor to be a veteran and to serve in this great local community.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your support!

Chaplain's Message



Avoiding
stress over the
holidays

Father John Vidal

When I realized it was time, once again, to sit down and write about Thanksgiving, I was dismayed on how fast this year has gone.

Could it be possible that the elections have come and gone and Black Friday is now staring us right in the face? Time goes by so fast that we can barely keep track of its passing. That is one of the beauties of Thanksgiving Day. It is truly a North American holiday (the Canadians celebrated their Thanksgiving Day on Monday, Oct. 10) and it encourages us to pause from our busy life and contemplate our blessings.

I was reading over a very public discussion about the results of the presidential election between two young adults, whom happen to be the young adult children of friends of mine on Facebook. The discussion

was sparked by, (for privacy sake let's call him Jack and her Jill) Jack who posted a regret for those who were going home for Thanksgiving to families who would be happy about the election results. Jill reacted immediately by defending the now president-elect. And, off they went...

My heart went out for Jack. He is in the minority in his family and while I've never seen an argument break out at their Thanksgiving get-togethers, which I've been privileged to be part of for some years, and while I am confident they will be loving and caring, I know that Jack is feeling very distressed by the results and knows he's in the minority. He feels isolated and is obviously dreading the day.

I'm positive Jack and Jill are not the only ones that will find themselves in this situation on Thanksgiving Day. How can we prevent the day from deteriorating into a thankless clash instead of a time of joy and thanksgiving?

This will not be easy. When we allow our passion to rule us we become disconnected from each other. We become vitriolic in our words and we lose our sympathy and

compassion for each other putting us in danger of breaking our bonds of love.

We cannot allow this to happen. Remember that as many of us are happy and hopeful, many of us are also sad and afraid.

First, begin with social media; take down any gloating or acrimonious remarks and replace them with happy circumstances of family and friends. Second, recognize that the media exaggerates and sensationalizes to increase viewership and circulation; don't fall for it. Third, stop and consider each other's position and recognize where there is validity in the other's hope or fear; don't challenge each other's motives and be kind and forgiving when somebody misspeaks.

At the end of the day, the fight is not worth it. Instead, think of ways to change the subject when politics comes up and be prepared with subjects that are up-lifting and joyful.

Finally, before you get there or before your family arrives, take a moment to pray for guidance and patience. Ask for the peace of the lord which passes all understanding. If you succeed, you will begin to heal the wounds and I promise your Thanksgiving will be truly happy and thankful.

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Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer

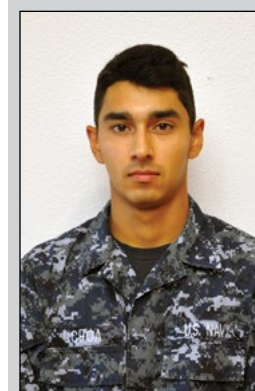
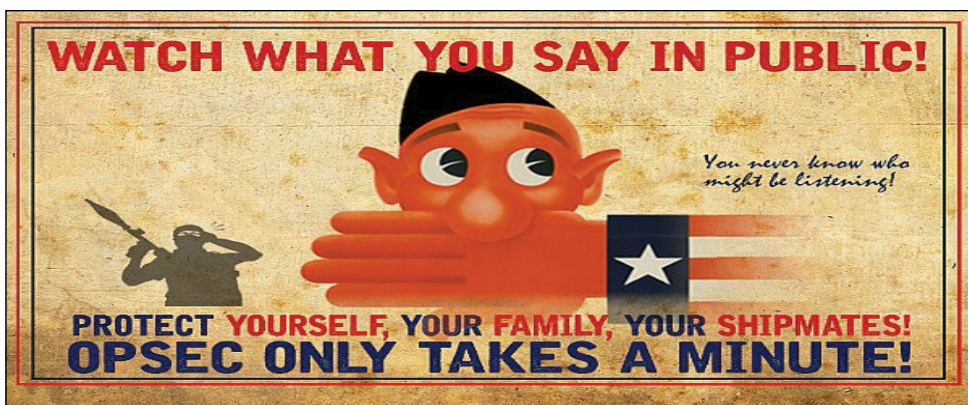
Jason Kucera
Editor



Wingspan



NASCC Facebook



This paper is published for people like Petty Officer 3rd Class George Ochoa, of Kingwood, Texas. He's assigned to air traffic control aboard NASCC.

CFC entering final two weeks

The Combined Federal Campaign is the annual fundraising drive that provides an opportunity for Federal civilians and service members to donate to local, national, and international non-profit organizations.

In 2015 the Texas Coast CFC raised over \$2.5 million. As of now, the campaign sits at slightly over \$200k with two more weeks to go. The campaign runs through Dec. 2.

The agency in the past had always relied on printed forms and booklets, passed out among military and civilian employees where ever they are stationed in the world to make contributions. There is now a website to make a contribution on-line, allowing for easier search options and immediate results.

This year, Chief Petty Officer James Jennings, is running the campaign at NASCC.

"We are combined with the Houston region for the first time so the overall collective donation for the campaign will be quite large," Jennings said.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the programs to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

The campaign has created benefit for many service members and their families to help in difficult times. There also thousands of charities listed that are external to the military and its support agencies.

To make a contribution on-line, visit www.texascoastcfc.org, or see your command's CFC representative for a donation booklet and form.



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CCAD, local food bank team up

by **Brigitte Rox**
CCAD Public Affairs

Corpus Christi Army Depot employees arriving to work Nov. 10 were greeted by large crates outside their work centers.

Each 3ft x 3ft x 3.75ft cardboard crate is deceptively durable to handle an assignment that barrels could no longer fill.

What's going in there? Food – and lots of it!

The 29th Annual Share Your Christmas Food Drive, benefiting the Food Bank of Corpus Christi, kicked off on November 1.

Schools, businesses, and families throughout the community team up with KIII-TV, HEB and the food bank for one month of giving to reduce hunger in South Texas.

CCAD event coordinator, Julius Wilson, said there are 15 crates spread throughout the 2.3 million square feet of depot industrial space where donors can deliver their nonperishable and non-breakable food items.

Employees can find these crates on the CCAD Portal: just navigate to the main page and scroll down to "Share Your Christmas Food Drive."

Crates will be picked up first thing on Friday, Dec. 2, at 7 a.m., so donors need to get their goods in the box before then.

Then the goods are delivered to the Food Bank of Corpus Christi at the KIII-TV news station, aired live on Channel 3.



Spc. Phillip Subblett, Julius Wilson and Spc Raheem Plazz delivered 15 giant and empty crates throughout Corpus Christi Army Depot with the hopes they get filled with nonperishable food items for the local food bank.

(Photo courtesy CCAD Public Affairs)

Beatriz Hanson, executive director, Food Bank of Corpus Christi, said that the food bank donations have been low this year but they hope that this year's drive will help.

Since 1982, the Food Bank of Corpus Christi has been fighting hunger in the Coastal Bend by providing food and personal care products to various charity and service agencies. They feed 78,900 people annually and service 11 counties in South Texas.

For more information on CCAD's Share Your Christmas Food Drive, call 961-9067.

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What's Happening?

Service members, civilians and families can learn about health and community service subjects during the NHCCC Health Fair this Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the clinic's Medical Home Port patient waiting area. Representatives from FFSC, USO, Tricare and others will be on-hand. For more information call 961-3914.

Christmas Tree Forest: A Reading Wonderland is a showcase of Christmas trees at the Art Museum of South Texas decorated to mirror children's books chosen by participating schools. This month long exhibit, with the help of numerous community partners, is displayed during the winter and closes in mid-December with Free Family Fun day, which is free to the public. 1901 N. Shoreline Blvd. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Turn trash into treasure for gifts that make both the ocean and recipients happy. Most of us are familiar with the 3 R's: reduce, reuse and recycle. It's time to put the 4th R into action - recreate! Learn about the problem of marine debris as you recreate "greener" holiday treasures from items that would be otherwise recycled or simply thrown away. Join us this Saturday from 10 a.m. till noon for some SEAsonal crafts for all ages! Please contact Nicole Pringle at 361-749-3153 or npringle@austin.utexas.edu for more information. 855 E. Cotter Ave. Port Aransas, University of Texas Marine Science Institute.

On-Going

The Counseling and Training Clinic at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi facilitates free and confidential support for the military, including active duty, Reserve, National Guard and veterans. The group is designed to help participants with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault and traumatic experiences. The group meets from 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays in room 2014 of the Natural Resource Center. Information: 361-825-3995.

Wednesdays
Downtown Farmers Market, 5-8 p.m.
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Celebrate and support local artisans and cottage food vendors as we host this year's Fall Market Days season at Water St. Village, home of Fresh! Cafe. The purpose of market days is to support cottage industries and entrepreneurs, and encourage support for local gift giving this holiday season. Each Saturday from 9 a.m. till noon.

The Catalina Club aboard NASCC is hosting NFL game day action every Sunday throughout the season. They open their doors at 11 a.m. till 7 p.m.



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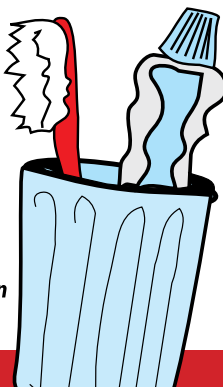
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Honoring Our Veterans

Editor's Note: This is one part in a series highlighting veterans in our community.

Empowering veterans through grass roots campaign

by Jason Kucera
NASCC Public Affairs

The stages of transitioning from the military for a service member can be tough.

Although there have been many initiatives installed by various agencies to help with transitioning from the military into civilian life, there are many challenges veterans face, many unforeseen challenges.

For LeeAnn Fox, an active duty Sailor who was medically retired with 18 years of service, the transition was quick and hard.

"I spent 11 months unemployed, I fell through the cracks," Fox says. "It was just a lot harder than I thought it was going to be and I wasn't doing very much to help myself."

Initially, Fox says she just didn't have an approach or direction to follow to land on her feet firmly.

She eventually landed a job with the Texas Veterans Commission which helped her to see she was not the only veteran having a hard time transitioning from active duty service.

Two years ago, she ran into several veterans who were struggling.

"When I started working for TVC, we saw a lot of male veterans having trouble but saw there was a huge disconnect with the female veterans," Fox said. "It really upset me. Some were single moms like me and

some were on welfare. It was unjust for someone having served their country.

"In part, due to the nature of the job I had, I came across many men and many women having the hardest time just getting by, getting gainful employment or working well beneath their basic skill set," Fox said. "They had accomplished so much in the military and here they were working a minimum wage job without any benefits."

Through all of this, she started bouncing the idea around with a few friends to start a group up called Women Veterans of the Coastal Bend.

"We sent out flyers to women who had come into our office before. We didn't expect many to show up but 36 ended up coming to our first meeting two years ago," Fox said.

The Women Veterans of the Coastal Bend is now up to more than 450 women either connected through their social media means or attend their meetings on a regular basis.

She left the TVC at the beginning of 2015 to work for the American Red Cross as a disaster relief program manager. Just last month, she decided to leave work there to focus full time on her growing support group.



LeeAnn Fox, president of the Women Veterans of the Coastal Bend.



Retired Chief Petty Officer LeeAnn Fox, while stationed abroad, spent the majority of her Navy career overseas as a master-at-arms. (Photo courtesy of LeeAnn Fox)

"The mission is to connect to the service member before they leave their respective service," says Fox. "We want to empower the female veteran."

The group also conducts workshops on various skills such as resume writing, job searching and practice interviews.

"We want to help them understand their benefits and how to apply for them on their way out (of the service)," she says, "and if we cannot, we definitely try to get to them as soon as we can."

Sometimes it's a whole lot more than just discussions about benefits and employment opportunities. Fox says they've handled situations when someone is at their lowest and they were able to intervene, guiding them to success.

"That's probably something that makes me feel best about doing all of this," Fox said. "Having someone on the brink of giving up because they're alone and don't see any other way, but to come back from that and be successful...that really makes me happy."

During Fox's Navy career she spent time all over the globe. Her first job in the Navy was as an engineman but then changed rates to become a master-at-arms.

She says one of the more significant experiences for her was in 2003 when then President George W. Bush famously landed an aircraft aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), to which she was assigned.

"I got to meet him in the gym of all places," Fox said. "I had come off of my shift to go work out and as I'm running on the treadmill, the President gets onto the treadmill next to me."

She thought she would get kicked out of the gym, but the Secret Service let her stay and she got to have a brief chat with the commander-in-chief.

"Another significant experience for me was when USS Cole (DDG 67) was attacked," Fox said. "I was on the Lincoln; we had just started a six month deployment. We were in the region but didn't pull into port

for two months after that."

Fox says it made her realize that although they were on mammoth, invincible-like ships, they were still very vulnerable.

Fox is a mother to a son and daughter. She enjoys her free time with her children and gets in some fishing when she can.

"Anything on the water is what I like to do and where I like to be," she said.

She says it's also good for her soul when she is away from the noise of everyday life for a few hours waiting for that bite on the line.

"What I really want veterans to know is they are definitely not alone. There are many resources available and while it's difficult to make that phone call, sometime it's important that you do," Fox said in closing.

For more information on Women Veterans of the Coastal Bend, contact Fox at (361) 960-3374 or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/womenveteranscb.

**Editors Note: if you would like to suggest a veteran to the public affairs office, please contact Jason Kucera at either (361) 961-3420 or jason.kucera@navy.mil.*

Bravo Zulu!



Petty Officer 1st Class Jasmin Shackelford, Sailor of the Year. Petty Officer 2nd Class Vicacy St John, Junior Sailor of the Year. Seaman Monique Watson, Blue jacket of the Year.

2016 NASCC Annual Award Announcement

At an all hands awards ceremony, Nov. 2, Capt. Steve Banta, commanding officer, NASCC, announced the names of the 2016 annual awardees. Each individual is assigned to NASCC. A huge Bravo Zulu to all!



Gilbert Roque, Manager of the Year.



Corcynthia Williams, Senior Civilian of the Year.



Johnny Guerra, Civilian of the Year.

Longtime fireman, set to retire soon



Captain Luis Martinez, Fire and Emergency Services, will retire from federal service on Dec. 2, in a formal ceremony.

The San Antonio native has 34 years of service, which includes 10 years active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a firefighter. His duty stations included Training Canute Air Force Base, Illinois; Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; and

Kessler AFB, Mississippi.

In addition to federal service aboard NAS Corpus Christi, Martinez has served at Bergstrom AFB in Austin and Kessler AFB in Mississippi.

Martinez' future plans include remaining in Corpus Christi and spending more quality time with his grandchildren.

Holiday Music Performances by:
Navy Band Southeast's Saxophone Quartet "Starboard Sounds"
and the NASCC Child & Youth Program Children!

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Around the Fleet: Veterans Day



Veterans living at Mirador, a retirement community in Corpus Christi, spent time together on Veterans Day during a special breakfast. Each veteran in attendance discussed their service to their country. Look for an upcoming interview with WWII Navy combat pilot Joe Sassman in the next *Wingspan*. (Photo by Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs)



Sailors from Navy Recruiting District New York marching up 5th Avenue during America's Parade, the nation's largest celebration of Veterans Day. More than half a million spectators were along the parade route to show their support for the country's veterans. (Photo by Chief Petty Officer Travis Simmons)



USS Iwo Jima sails past the Statue of Liberty as it enters New York Harbor, Nov. 10, before Veterans Week NYC 2016. About 1,000 Sailors and more than 100 Marines from the ship participated in events throughout the city, including the Veterans Day parade. (Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Carla Giglio)



Sailors from Navy Band Southeast march down the street and perform during Jacksonville's annual Veterans Day Parade. (Photo by Seaman Michael Lopez)

Stormwater, pollution prevention

Courtesy notice Public Works Environmental

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) aren't just bad for our personal health; they are bad for the health of our sewer system as well. When FOG is washed down the drain it can build up and block the entire pipe. This can result in raw sewage backing up and overflowing into buildings, streets, or the river.

NEVER pour cooking fats, oils, or grease down sink drains.

Pour waste liquid cooking oil and grease into a metal can (soup, vegetable, etc.). Let the grease cool and solidify then place it in the garbage can for disposal.

Scrape or wipe grease and food scraps from plates, pots, utensils and cooking surfaces into the trash for disposal.

Do not put grease or greasy foods down garbage disposals. Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.



Chief of Naval Operations presents 36th annual Stockdale Leadership award

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The 36th annual Vice Adm. James Bond Stockdale Leadership Award ceremony was held Nov. 8, in the Pentagon Hall of Heroes in Washington, D.C.

Cmdr. Gary G. Montalvo, the U.S. Pacific Fleet recipient, and Cmdr. Ken J. Kleinschnittger, the U.S. Fleet Forces recipient, received the award.

The award is presented annually to two commissioned officers on active duty in the grade of commander or below who are serving in command of a single unit, and who serve as examples of excellence in leadership and conspicuous contribution to the improvement of leadership in the Navy.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson served as guest speaker at the ceremony and presented the awards to the winners. Richardson received the award in 2001.

Montalvo is the commanding officer of attack submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777).

"With so many great leaders in our Navy, this award is amazing; but to be nominated by my peers is just simply humbling beyond words," said Montalvo. "I have known of Admiral Stockdale since the first memory I have in the Navy. He was the leader of leaders from his tribulations in Hanoi, and how he handled that continuously degrading

situation with as much poise as you can have were reflective of his model leadership. In my earliest days, he was the example of what leadership was supposed to be."

Kleinschnittger is the former commanding officer of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 12 and is currently working with Navy Expeditionary Combat Command forces.

"When I was a midshipman there was a room called the Stockdale room -- just a room with a plaque on it called Stockdale's Place," said Kleinschnittger. "I never in my wildest dreams imagined my name would be associated with his."

Nominations for the award come only from commanding officers in command and who are eligible for the award. The two commanders were chosen from among eight finalists.

A Naval Academy graduate and pilot, Stockdale ejected from his A-4E Skyhawk over North Vietnam, September 1965, and was held prisoner and frequently tortured until February 1973. He received the Medal of Honor in 1976 and served as president of the Naval War College from October 1977 to August 1979.



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson presides over the 2016 Vice Adm. James Bond Stockdale Leadership award ceremony in the Pentagon Hall of Heroes. This year's recipients are Cmdr. Ken Kleinschnittger, Atlantic Fleet, and Cmdr. Gary Montalvo, Pacific Fleet. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Nathan Laird)

Upcoming Community Events

NAMI Support Group

NAMI Greater Corpus Christi, an affiliate of the National Alliance for Mental Illness, www.nami.org, now has a weekly support group for those working on recovery with mental illness - NAMI Connection - every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7:30 PM at Family Counseling Services, 3833 S. Staples, Room 218. A Family Support Group is held every first and third Friday from 7 to 8:30 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 5830 Williams, Rm 1, Satellite Bldg. Both groups are free. No registration required. For more information, www.namitexas.org/nami-greater-corpus-christi

Kingsville Farmers Market

6th and Yoakum, Kingsville, Texas. Live music. Over 40 vendors. Locally grown fruits and vegetables. Locally produced grass-fed beef, organic chickens, jams and jellies. Locally made soaps, lotions, and balms. Home-made arts and crafts of all kinds. So much more! Every 4th Saturday of the month year round, 9 a.m. to noon. Dates may change around the Holidays. Call 361-455-1846 for information.

TO HAVE YOUR EVENT INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION, EMAIL AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM. THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT EVENTS IS 10 A.M. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION. UPCOMING EVENTS ARE PUBLISHED AS SPACE PERMITS THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES AS TO HOW MANY TIMES AN EVENT WILL RUN. QUESTIONS REGARDING EVENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ASHLEY AT 361-746-4341.

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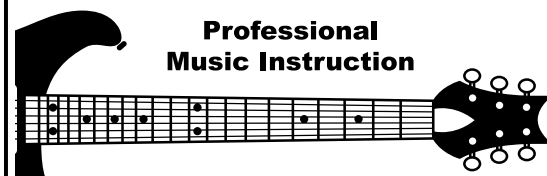
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At Dillard's, we recognize with continuing gratitude the sacrifices our military forces and their families make daily for our country. In appreciation, we are extending a

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***These individuals and/or a representative from their immediate family are cordially invited to shop any area Dillard's store on either or both days.*

Call 1-800-345-5273 to find a Dillard's store near you.

NHCCC observes Marine Corps 241st birthday

Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi celebrated the Marine Corps' 241st birthday with a cake-cutting ceremony on the quarterdeck Nov. 10.

Representing the oldest Marine, Shawn Hall, a civilian assigned to NHCCC, served on active duty from 1977 to 1981. Retired first sergeant Frank Rivera, a civilian assigned to NASCC Fleet and Family Support Center, represented the youngest Marine.

When the Continental Congress stood up two battalions of Marines in 1775, a culture of discipline, vigilance, professionalism, and military excellence was born that has characterized the Corps for nearly two and a half centuries. Marines have a profound respect for their traditions and heritage, and for taking care of each other.

Major John Dill, USMC (Ret.), a native of Philadelphia who served from 1965 to 1993,



Major John Dill, USMC (Ret.), a native of Philadelphia who served from 1965 to 1993 (left), with those representing oldest and youngest, Shawn Hall (center) during NHCCC's observance of the Marine Corps' 241st birthday Nov. 10. (Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC Public Affairs)

spoke about the special relationship Marines have with Navy Medicine, particularly Navy Hospital Corpsmen.

The hospital corpsman serves with Marines. They fight with Marines. They save Marines' lives. And they have Marines' respect.

No single rating in the Navy is more decorated for valor than the hospital corpsman.

It's been said that, "The Marines don't wonder if he will save their lives. They just wonder when."

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